Claim 9, line 1, replace "one of claims 1 to 8" with --claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, replace "one of claims 1 to 9" with --claim 1--.

Claim 13, lines 1-2, replace "one of claims 11 or 12" with --claim 11--.

Claim 14, lines 1-2, replace "one of claims 11 to 13" with --claim 11--.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please cancel the original Abstract sheet page 21 in its entirety and insert therefor:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for distributing information and its fault management process which improves the robustness of a network, such as in an aircraft, a boat, or a train. The device or process includes one or more splitters of which an upstream input output is linked to a first end of a chain including stations, at lower overdimensioning cost, and with dynamic management of a fault which renders it transparent or of very short duration. A second end of the chain is linked to a downstream input output of another splitter and a fault management procedure is implemented activating or otherwise one of the ends of a chain depending on the nature and the conditions of the fault. Preferably, addresses of the elements of the network can reflect its topology and facilitate the shunting of the addresses of the stations between splitters.--

<u>REMARKS</u>

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present Preliminary

Amendment the specification has been amended to include suggested headings. The claims have been amended to no longer recite any reference numerals or multiple dependencies. A new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is also submitted herein.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

22850

(703) 413-3000

Fax No.: (703) 413-2220

SNS/la

I:\atty\SNS\198944-pr.wpd